



Name: Jay S. Bybee

Born: October 27, 1953 in Oakland, California

Profession:

- Attorney
- Judge

GW Bush Administration Position:

- Assistant Attorney General
- Head of Office of Legal Counsel of Dept. of Justice

War crime charge(s):

- Complicity in the commission of a war crime – torture, ill-treatment of detainees.
- Signed the "torture memo" of Aug. 2002, giving a novel and narrow definition of torture.

Primary Association:

- Judge, [United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit](#)
James R. Browning
United States Courthouse
95 Seventh Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-1518
415-355-8000

[Excellent biography page on Bybee from The Center for Torture Accountability.](#)

More Information:

- [Bybee: Personal Torture Laws - Your Tax Dollars at Work](#)
- [Bybee Judicial Confirmation Hearing Video](#)
- [Petition to Impeach Bybee](#)

- [An Even Worse Bybee Memo](#)
- [Bush Attorneys Who Wrote Terror Memo Face Backlash](#)
- [Hawaii Public Radio Report on Honolulu Bybee Demo](#)
- [WEBCAST: The Bybee Impeachment Question](#)

On Wednesday, May 13, 2009 the Alliance for Justice hosted a panel of scholars and legal experts at the National Press Club to discuss the options for holding Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Jay S. Bybee accountable for his role in authoring memos that gave the Bush White House permission to illegally torture detainees.

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Video: [The Jay Bybee Problem](#)

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[7-1-09 10 Most Wanted War Criminals](#)

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[9-29-09 Profile: Jay S. Bybee](#)

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[11-11-09 Bush torture 'architect' sits on court that will rule on another torture 'architect'](#)

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[12-09-09 Annotated Agression: Being Jay Bybee](#)

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[1-29-10 Justice Dept. Clears Yoo, Bybee of Misconduct](#)

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[1-30-10 Now We Impeach Jay Bybee](#)

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[1-30-10 Things You Can Do to Impeach Bybee](#)

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[5-18-10 On the AZ Immigration Law: Might a Bybee Memo Thwart Holder?](#)

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[7-15-10 Bush Aide Says Some CIA Methods Unauthorized](#)

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[12-30-10 Hounding a Torture Judge: A Report on the Campaign to Impeach Jay S. Bybee](#)

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[10-24-11 A big gift for Bybee](#)

- [12-05-18 Criminal History: BCCI, the Bushes ... and Mueller](#)

Note:

“Physical pain amounting to torture must be equivalent in intensity to the pain accompanying serious physical injury, such as organ failure, impairment of bodily function, or even death¹.”

[Why should a suspected war criminal serve as a federal judge?](#)

¹From the " [Bybee Torture Memo](#) ," Aug. 1, 2002, paragraph 2.

From [Officials of Torture](#) , website of Sandra Koponen.



"We'll Call These EITs", 22x30, Oil on canvas, Sandra Koponen © 2015

Left to Right: Steven Bradbury, William J. Haynes, Jay Bybee, Robert Eatinger

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Jay Bybee, DOJ's Office of Legal Counsel Assistant Attorney General Nov. 2001 - Mar. 2003

As head of the OLC, Bybee oversaw and participated in the crafting of the legal justification for the torture program, including arguments that Geneva Convention protections did not apply to detainees. The most notorious of his memos, signed on August 1, 2002, approved of the use of waterboarding, walling, cramped confinement, insects placed in a confinement box, and more. Other memos Bybee crafted or helped craft provided the legal foundation for the U.S. to “render” detainees to countries where they faced a high risk of torture — and where many were, in fact, tortured.*

** <https://www.aclu.org/infographic/infographic-torture-architects>